(b) if so, the steps taken by his Ministry in this regard;

(c) whether it is also a fact that in the month of October, 2002 the SC has issued directions to all the State Governments and U.Ts. to take appropriate action against the errant clinics; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) and (b) While hearing a PIL (Writ Petition No. 301 of 2000 filed by CEHAT and Others v/s Union of India and Others) the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India has been issuing directions since May 2001 to the Union of India as well as States/U.Ts. for implementation of the provisions of the Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques (Regulation and Prevention of Misuse) Act, 1994. The directions also include direction to take prompt action against any person or body who issues or caused to be issued any advertisement in any manner regarding availability of facilities of pre-natal determination of sex in violation of Section 22 of the Act.

Since implementation of the Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques (Regulation and Prevention of Misuse) Act, 1994 rests with States/U.Ts., they have been advised to take action as per the directions of the Court.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) While hearing a PIL (Writ Petition No. 301 of 2000 filed by CEHAT and Others v/s Union of India and Others) on 7.10.2002, the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, inter-alia stated that the learned counsel for the petitioners has pointed out that some of the States/UTs, particularly the States of Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Gujarat and Delhi are not stopping the advertisements in the newspaper issued by some clinics for carrying out sex determination and/or abortion. Therefore, the Hon'ble Supreme Court directed the competent authorities of the States/U.Ts. to take appropriate actions against such clincis.

Expenditure on health services

†520. SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that per capita expenditure on health services in India is the lowest in the world;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the reasons therefore;

(c) whether Government have taken any action for increasing the per capita expenditure on health services in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Per capita expenditure on health in India is lower than that of the developed countries but compares reasonably well with that of developing countries.

(c) and (b) The Central Government has been making every effort to increase its contribution to public health expenditure. The overall plan outlay in health sector in the Ninth Five Year Plan. Has been 4.01% of the total plan outlay as compared to 3.2% during the 8th Five Year Plan. The resources for public investment in health sector are also being augmented by securing assistance from various bilateral and multilateral agencies for implementation of various disease control programmes. Health infrastructure in seven States (Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Orissa, Punjab, West Bengal, Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh) is also being upgraded with World Bank assistance. The National Health Policy, 2002 envisages increasing the Central Government contribution from the existing 15% to 25% of the total spending in the health sector by 2010.

Transfer policy for doctors and staff in CGHS

521. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the policy being adopted for transfer of doctors and other staff in CGHS dispensaries/offices;

(b) whether this policy is limited only for doctors;

(c) whether it is also a fact that this policy is not adopted in case of staff posted in CGHS office, South Zone, R.K. Puram, New Delhi; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) and (b) As per existing transfer policy, Group 'A' officers in the CGHS are normally transferred